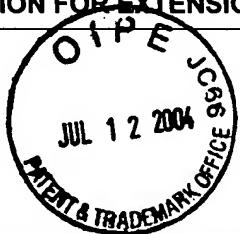


Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number.

## PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME UNDER 37 CFR 1.136(a)

Docket Number (Optional)  
4002-3429/PC845.00

In re Application of	George Frey et al.
Application Number	10/720,656
For	DISTRACTION AND RETRACTION SYSTEM FOR SPINAL SURGERY
Art Unit	3732
Examiner	

This is a request under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a) to extend the period for filing a reply in the above-identified application.

The requested extension and appropriate non-small-entity fee are as follows (check time period desired):

<input type="checkbox"/> One month (37 CFR 1.17(a)(1))	\$ _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Two months (37 CFR 1.17(a)(2))	\$ _____
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Three months (37 CFR 1.17(a)(3))	\$ 950 _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Four months (37 CFR 1.17(a)(4))	\$ _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Five months (37 CFR 1.17(a)(5))	\$ _____

Applicant claims small entity status. See 37 CFR 1.27. Therefore, the fee amount shown above is reduced by one-half, and the resulting fee is: \$ \_\_\_\_\_.

A check in the amount of the fee is enclosed.

Payment by credit card. Form PTO-2038 is attached.

The Director has already been authorized to charge fees in this application to a Deposit Account.

The Director is hereby authorized to charge any fees which may be required, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account Number 23-3030.

I have enclosed a duplicate copy of this sheet.

I am the  applicant/inventor.

assignee of record of the entire interest. See 37 CFR 3.71. Statement under 37 CFR 3.73(b) is enclosed (Form PTO/SB/96).

attorney or agent of record. Registration Number: 43,556

attorney or agent under 37 CFR 1.34(a). Registration number if acting under 37 CFR 1.34(a): \_\_\_\_\_

**WARNING: Information on this form may become public. Credit card information should not be included on this form. Provide credit card information and authorization on PTO-2038.**

July 8, 2004

Date

(317) 634-3456

Telephone Number

Signature

Douglas A. Collier

Typed or printed name

Note: Signatures of all the inventors or assignees of record of the entire interest or their representative(s) are required. Submit multiple forms if more than one signature is required. see below.

Total of forms are submitted

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.136(a). The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 6 minutes to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.